



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: )  
Kahle, et al. )  
Serial No. 10/666,579 )  
Filed: September 17, 2003 )  
For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT ACCESS )  
DEVICE )  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney's Docket: A-2845-AL

Customer Window, Mail Stop DD  
US Patent and Trademark Office  
2011 South Clark Place  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of PTO Form SB/08a which lists information which may be relevant to the prosecution of the above-captioned application. It is requested that this information be considered by the Office.

This Statement is being submitted under the terms of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). The information is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, it is believed no fee is due.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), it is understood that filing of the Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information submitted is material to patentability.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any over-payment, to our Deposit Account No. 01-2215.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth K. Vu  
Attorney for Applicant  
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Date: January 21, 2004

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Date of Deposit: January 28, 2004

I hereby certify that the following documents as identified below are being deposited with Federal Express Service on the date indicated above in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, 2011 South Clark Place, Customer Window, Mail Stop DD, Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03, Arlington, VA 22202

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form SB/08a; and
3. Return-receipt postcard.

Each of the above-identified documents is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

2

## Complete if Known

Application Number	10/666,579
Filing Date	September 17, 2003
First Named Inventor	Kahle
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	

Attorney Docket Number

A-2845-AL

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
		US- 6,045,535	04/04/2000	Ben Nun	
		US- 5,514,133	05/07/1996	Golub	
		US- 5,471,298	04/21/1998	MacLeod	
		US- 5,389,080	02/14/1995	Yoon	
		US- 4,338,937	07/13/1982	Lerman	
		US- 6,482,181	11/19/2002	Racenet	
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		US- 5,496,280	03/05/1996	Vandenbroek	
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		US- 6,010,494	01/04/2000	Schafer	
		US- 5,350,364	09/27/1994	Stephens	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			

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Sheet 2

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		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (# known)			
		US- 5,389,081	02/14/1995	Castro	
		US- 5,628,732	05/13/1997	Antoon Jr.	
		US- 5,993,471	11/30/1999	Riza	
		US- 5,720,730	02/24/1998	Blake, III	
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		US- 2002/0042607	04/11/2002	Palmer	
		US- 6,413,244	07/02/2002	Bestetti	
		US- *	*		
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